

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated June 10, 2003, the Examiner set forth the requirement that the Applicant elect a species pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121 as the single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Pursuant to the Examiner's request, Applicant elects Group 9 (which encompasses Fig. 19) as the single disclosed species for prosecution. The following claims are encompassed by Group 9: Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, and 57. At least Claims 1, 19, 52, and 57 are generic claims. Various other claims of the application are also generic. Remaining claims 4, 17, 18, 26, 31, 42-48, 54-56, and 58-68 are withdrawn from consideration pending allowance of a generic claim pertaining thereto.

Conclusion

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and seeks early indication of the same. If the Examiner requires further information with respect to this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at (847) 537-3537 for a telephonic interview.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 9, 2003

By:



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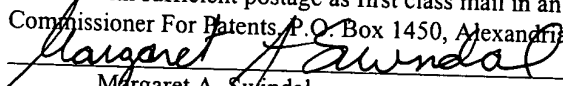
Attorney Docket No. 304 P002

PATENT

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on July 9, 2003 by:


Margaret A. Swindal